

**SCIARA (NEOSCIARA) BEEBEI, A NEW SPECIES  
OF SCIARIDAE HAVING MIGRATORY LARVAE.**

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Included in some specimens of insects collected by Dr. William Beebe at Rancho Grande, Venezuela on July 9, 1946 and June 20, 1948 there is a new species of Sciariidae having migratory larvae. Masses of larvae were collected on June 20, subsequently some of these pupated and a few adults emerged.

The larvae are typical Sciariids having black heads and white bodies. There are eight pairs of spiracles, one prothoracic and seven abdominal. The larvae are legless and are about 20 mm. in length. We plan to publish a description of the larvae and pupae in the future.

The formation of migratory processions of Sciariids has been reported by several authors. Nowicki (1868) described a species *Sciara militaris* whose larvae formed processions. Beling (1883) published a paper on armyworms or "Heerwurms" which were larval Sciariids. Osten Sacken (1886) states that such migrations form when the larvae are searching for better sources of food. Johannsen (1912) has reported migratory Sciariids from North America.

The adult specimens reared by Dr. Beebe all proved to be males. Some specimens failed to develop normal wings but were of value for a study of other characters.

***Sciara (Neosciara) beebei* n. sp.**

Male—Length  $6\frac{1}{2}$  mm. (alcoholic material). General color dark brown. Wing, figure 1, infuscated. Head—dark brown above but lighter ventrally. Antennae sixteen segmented, segments longer than broad. Ocelli 3, prominent, located in triangular raised area dorsal to the eye bridge. Mouthparts—light brown, palpi 4 segmented; labellar lobes large. Thorax dark brown. Mesonotum mainly dark, scutellum and metanotum reddish brown. Costa, subcosta and radius brown. Media and cubitus yellow. Costa produced about  $\frac{3}{5}$  distance from tip of Rs to  $M_1+2$ . Sc short, not more than  $\frac{1}{6}$  the length of cell R, ends free.  $R_1+2$  ends slightly beyond fork of media. Petiole of media about  $\frac{1}{3}$  longer than  $R_1+2$ . Petiole of cubitus about  $\frac{3}{4}$  the length of the basal section of media. Branches of cubitus widely separated at wing margin, distance between them being more than the distance from  $M_3+4$  to  $Cu_1$ . Halteres light brown in color. Legs—coxae and

trochanters dark brown, remaining segments somewhat lighter. Femora, tibiae and tarsi covered with dense black spines.

Abdomen—first three segments somewhat paler than succeeding four. Hypopygium, figure 2, large, dark brown. Between basi-

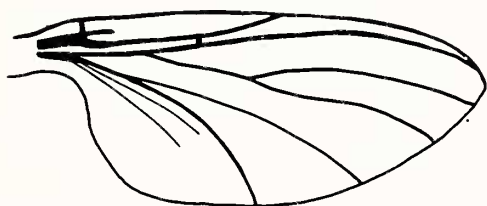


FIG.1 WING OF  
SCIARA BEEBEI

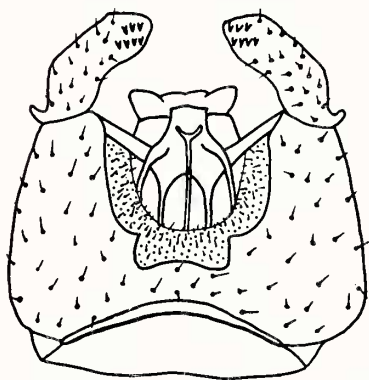


FIG.2 HYPOPYGIUM OF SCIARA BEEBEI  
VENTRAL VIEW

styles there is a membranous area having a dense covering of fine setae next to the basistyles. Dististyles with a small hook-like structure at the basal lateral portion. At the tip of inner face of the dististyles one row of three and a parallel row of four spines.

In Petzey's key (1918) this species would run to *Neosciara picca* Rubsaamen which was based on a female. We have no records to indicate that males of *picca* have been described. Since we lack material of *picca* for comparison, it is considered better to describe our males as a new species. The type and paratypes are in the Shaw collection.

We take pleasure in naming this species for Dr. William Beebe. A description of the migratory habits of this insect can be found in "High Jungles" a book recently published by Dr. Beebe.

#### LITERATURE CITED

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#### NOTICE

##### IXth International Congress of Entomology.

The IXth International Congress of Entomology will be held August 17th-24th, 1951, in Amsterdam (Netherlands). Entomologists wishing to receive in due course programs and application forms are requested to communicate now with the Secretariate, c.o. Physiologisch Laboratorium, 136 Rapenburgerstraat, Amsterdam.